

WESSEX NEWS

VOL. 3 No. 18

MAY 3RD, 1938

PRICE TWOPENCE

International Student Service

Multilateral Conference on
"Peaceful Change."

Southampton, April 10-15th, 1938.

The International Student Service Conference on "Peaceful Change," which began on April 10th at Connaught Hall, finished on April 15th in an atmosphere of genuine cordiality. Only the first and last days were given over to general discussions in the full session, which consisted of 85 delegates, 5 being from Czechoslovakia, 5 from Denmark, 5 from France, 14 from Germany, 26 from Great Britain, 5 from Hungary, 3 from Sweden, 3 from Switzerland, 3 from Yugoslavia, together with representatives of the London and Paris offices of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and members of the International Student Service staff from London and Geneva.

On the first day the discussion was introduced by Sir Arthur Willert, who spoke on "Stability and Change in International Relations," and on the last day the Chairman, Sir Andrew McFadyen, returned to the same theme in introducing the final debate. In the three intervening days the Conference met in four Commissions or round tables, on Economic Appaseement, Danubian Questions, The Colonial Problem, and The Procedure of Peaceful Change, and the reports of these Commissions, presented by their respective Chairmen, were discussed in plenary session. The conclusions of such a conference could not and were not meant to have the nature of agreed recommendations. In all the three main sub-topics discussed the talks were characterised by sharp disagreements, as was only to be expected when one had, for instance, Germans, British and French considering the economic value of colonies, or Czechoslovaks, Hungarians, Yugoslavs and Germans discussing the minority problems of Central and South-East Europe. Even the Commission on Procedure soon came up against the opposing theories of bilateralism and multilateralism. Nevertheless there was enough agreement and readiness to make one feel, as the Chairman put it, optimistic for the long run—when the students of to-day should be in positions of responsibility—however pessimistic one might be about the short run.

The free hours of such a conference are one of its most valuable parts, and, aided by perfect weather, the Conference made good use of them: on Wednesday the delegates made an expedition to Salisbury Cathedral, Stonehenge and Romsey Abbey, and last night the proceedings were wound up with a "stunts night" at which the various national groups performed songs, dances and sketches, and at which nothing said in the course of these five days was held to be sacred. The ability to stand up to caricature, and indeed the enthusiasm with which the victims joined in the laugh against themselves, are perhaps no bad indication of the remarkable success of this Conference.

EDWARD BRADBY,
General Secretary.

Exchange of Students Scheme with America

At the last meeting of the College Council it was decided that the College should participate in the Phi Delta Theta Scheme, under which an exchange of students between British and American Universities is organised.

The scheme provides that an American student should attend University College, Southampton, for one Session, and, in return, a student from the College should attend an American University for the same period, and that each student receive free tuition and free residence. This means that a place in an American University is available for one of our students for next session, carrying with it free tuition and residence. It is also possible that a grant may be made to the selected candidate, which would help to defray the expenses of the journey.

Mr. G. P. Bailey would be very glad to supply students who are interested with any particulars they may require regarding American Universities, and the operation of the scheme.

I shall be glad to be informed of the names of any students who wish to be considered as candidates for the free place.

GEORGE GRANT, Registrar.

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WESSEX NEWS

Tuesday, May 3rd, 1938.

Offices:

STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON.

Editor: J. M. TAYLOR.

Sub-Editor: MISS JOAN BARKER.

Sports Editor: L. H. MOORE.

Business Manager: G. EMERY.

Asst. Business Manager:
J. R. MASTERMAN.

Editorial.

One wonders how many College people came back to Southampton guiltily conscious of a wasted vac. and filled with the grim and laudable intention to Work. Even in the first week, it was obvious that the metamorphoses characteristic of the summer term was already taking place: notorious idlers were seen ascending the Library stairs, on their way to work, if a lengthy sojourn in that academic atmosphere be any reliable criterion of work, strong men turned pale at the sound of the word "Finals" and sadists found unholy glee in the malicious whisper, "Six more weeks"—The University of London seems to exert a hypnotic influence over its victims; their interest in everything not covered by the syllabus is paralysed; they are too deep in "set books" to scan the notice boards, and too absorbed to contribute to *Wessex News*.

The work fever has by no means reached its height—perhaps we can hope that there are students who have kept up throughout the year, and consequently have no need to build a wall of reference books between them and College events in the last term. The Sports were well supported; (although the enthusiasm of the spectators was chilled by the wind) But the sports is only the first of a series of athletic events, equally deserving support; it is encouraging to think a precedent may have been established last Saturday. The lovely country around Southampton is at its best in early summer; there can be opportunities for walks—across the New Forest and in the woods nearer the town. "Work" is not isolation.

1. The Editor is not responsible for the views expressed in signed articles.

2. Correspondents are asked to make their letters as brief and to the point as possible.

3. The Editor regrets that, owing to lack of space, it is impossible to print Society reports unless they have genuine news value.

Correspondence

To the Editor of *Wessex News*.

Dear Sir,

I had better begin by stating that I claim no allegiance to any specific political creed, although my Communist friends will say that is an open confession of my Conservative leanings and my Tory friends will argue that it implies a sympathy for Left doctrines.

Upon entering the Refectory last Friday, I was handed a pamphlet which called upon all and sundry "to march for peace" on May 1st. Reading further it transpired that one had to 'march for peace' to 'supply arms to the peoples of Spain and China.'

Now, Sir, I am well aware that certain political regimes are barbarous and primitive in their ideals but can one ever hope to establish a lasting peace merely by fighting them with their own weapons, reverting to the old law of an 'eye for an eye'—or, as nowadays, 'two eyes for an eye' (if one is willing to pay another 6d. Income Tax to build more armaments)?

The pamphlet continued to cite certain countries as potential enemies; cannot people cease to regard countries as sacred entities and appreciate that a State is composed of individuals?

An appeal was also made to Christians to join in the 'march for peace.' I had always thought the Christian way of achieving peace was not the one advocated in this pamphlet, but some difference of opinion appears to exist on this point, and it has to be admitted that the Established Church has given its blessing to the arts of war and has kept its Bishops busy consecrating new regimental Colours. I would hesitate to accuse anyone of insincerity in such a serious subject but my worst fears are confirmed by pamphlets of this nature.

Do its sponsors really desire Peace?

Yours sincerely,

PERPLEXED.

The Editor of *Wessex News*.

Dear Sir,

Since the most obvious troubles become obscured by being too often repeated we now pay very little attention to complaints about the general lack of enthusiasm in college. We take it for granted that most of us must be bored, and call college life 'unnatural' when we suffer the results of our boredom.

Mr. Dudley's appeal to the less outstanding people to take part in sports should be taken to heart by all those hiding their lights (athletic and otherwise) under a bushel. The benefit to the community would be beyond all measure if all its members made the best of what small talents they have. The college orchestra, the rambling Club, *Wessex News*, *West Saxon* are all in need of fresh support that could quite clearly be forthcoming. I would like to emphasise this particularly in the case of the orchestra. Is it modesty that keeps the many able musicians in college from joining its numbers? Or is it laziness? And why do many reputed music lovers neglect to support its concerts? I should be pleased to receive still further opinions.

Yours sincerely,
P. B.

To the Editor of *Wessex News*.

Dear Sir,

I should like to make a protest against the complete lack of enthusiasm among the majority of the members of the Union for anything that requires any exertion on their part.

As an example I would cite the Sports. At half-term in the Easter Term, at least a dozen women were willing to enter for the Sports. Arrangements were accordingly made, only to be cancelled because 4 women only entered. And there were only 18 men competitors on the day.

I could give many other instances of this lassitude. I will not take up any more of your valuable space.

I would, however, make a plea for more enthusiasm generally in Coll.

Yours, etc.,
P. R. MOSSMAN.

ATHLETIC UNION DANCE.

In spite of efficient organisation and good support, there was something lacking at the A.U. Dance on Saturday, something less definable than the Chairman of the Athletic Union, or the Assembly Hall decorations. Perhaps it was darkness; in any case, the respectable restraint which had characterised the early part of the evening, waned with the daylight, and, towards ten o'clock, there was a more animated atmosphere. Several couples were seen to smile while dancing.

The curtains parted, and revealed the stage set for the distribution of cups. Mr. Dudley deputised admirably for the Chairman; he congratulated the successful competitors in the Sports as one athlete to another, ("we javelin throwers"), praised the "also rans" and helpers who made the sports possible, and reminded the Union that Sports were intended for every one, and not for the specialists of the Athletic Club alone. His introduction of Mrs. Harry was charming—and entirely superfluous! The award of trophies proceeded in the time honoured School Prize Giving tradition, with the prizes given in a very gracious way, with a charm born of genuine interest in the winners and their performances.

The close of the ceremony was marked by a general exodus from the Hall and, for some time, no one could complain of a crowded floor. The programme of dances certainly did not lack variety; an old-fashioned and a modern medley, a palais glide, and the Lambeth Walk (—the general standard of achievement of the latter cannot be commended.) and 'Valuable Prize' dances.

To the Editor of *Wessex News*.

In a recent issue of your paper Mr. T. Norris brought up an issue which must touch upon some feeling either of satisfaction or of dissatisfaction—perhaps only a vague sentiment but nevertheless real in the minds of all students proceeding in their third or fourth years of College. Starting with the growing unrest over the lecture system, he proceeds quite rightly to consider University life as a whole.

In my opinion a student can feel satisfied with his College career if he has acquired methods of thought of several kinds, over and above knowledge of fact and briefly, I suggest, once more two means of amending the Degree course to afford more chance of such satisfaction:—

(a) the Degree syllabus should include a test of some extraneous interest of the student.

(b) the lecture system should reserve one period per week for a popular lecture upon a subject of general cultural interest.

This would give the student more encouragement to think independently outside the framework of his immediate syllabus.

G. A. EMERY.

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THIS EVENING AT 8.15

ATHLETIC UNION

Sports Day 1938

The people of England, it has often been dimly reiterated, are rapidly becoming a race of spectators of sport; when nearly 100,000 people watch 22 players attempt to manoeuvre a leather sphere filled with compressed air through a space 8 yards long, there appears to be some justification for this criticism. To a great extent the students of University College, Southampton, also incur this criticism, and it has been the despairing task of the two preceding sport's editors to deplore this state of affairs. We regret that we must be the third to do so. Discounting the tug-o-war teams, the astonishing fact about Sports Day is that out of nearly 250 men students the number who took active part in the events was 18! And there were fifteen events! This appears to us to be a most disturbing thought, but we have long ago given up the hope that affairs of College will ever be run by more than a few enthusiastic people. The obvious result of this tremendous entry was that runners were required to participate in three, and often more events. To these students the thanks of College are due for having made Sports Day possible. If numbers are less next year, we visualize one runner breathing the tape to the plaudits of one spectator. We think Mr. Dudley made fitting remarks about the absence of the Women's Sports, so there is no need to comment further on the inability of 117 women to run a Sports Day. We hope Miss Luff's plea will meet with some practical response from potential women athletes.

We are glad to welcome back the athlete's captain, who—we write with extreme regret—did not return from Sydney "trailing clouds of glory," but he will doubtless prove as formidable a member of the A.C. this season as he did last. His 100 yards in 10 secs. bodes well.

The final impression of this year's Sports Day will probably be that it was a sound, rather than a brilliant, one. The standard in general was pleasantly higher than the average, and considering the terrific head wind down the home straight, the times for the distance races compare well with those of previous years. The outstanding performances of the day were N. D. Pirrie's ½-mile in 2 mins. 7 9/10 secs., an excellent performance with a wind of 25-30 m.p.h. against him in the home straight—and for which he received the Principal's medal for the Best Champion of the Day; L. M. Wallace's 100 yards in 10 seconds—a new record (with a following

wind); C. T. Reed's throw of 131ft. 7ins. of the Javelin—not a record because a light javelin was used. A pity Mr. Dudley could not compete in this event, for his returns of the javelin and general technique were most impressive. We must delve into the Record-book to discover when Mr. Dudley held the Irish native record; the relay race was won in the record time of 3 mins. 57½ secs.

The successor to George Morton in the field events (not excluding Mr. Dudley) will not be easily found, but there is talent on Sports Day's showing, and on the whole the Athletic Clubs should have adequate support from the field men in most matches. That modest violet, B. A. Wareham, content with achieving the distinctions of captain-elect of Hockey and captain of Tennis, must needs show his athletic versatility by gaining a first in the "Shot in the Corner" and a second in the Discus. A first in Finals and Wareham would probably consider that his three years at College had not been without their little successes.

Curiously enough, in only one race—apart from the 120 yds. Hurdles, was there a really exciting finish. This was in the race which most people missed, since they deluded themselves into thinking tea was more pleasant than observing the subtle tactics of the Three-milers. For the preceding 9 laps G. E. R. Burroughs had given an impeccable exhibition of how to keep in front of his rivals, but he could not hold off the challenge of J. Hodgkinson, who was tied by an invisible cord at a distance of 2-3 yards to Burroughs for these 9 laps, and with a very well timed sprint he got his nose in front in the last 50 yards, and it stayed there. This was undoubtedly the best finish of the day, with the exception of the 120 yards hurdles, in which P. R. Mossman and J. Thornhill—who is an acquisition to the Club—strode hurdle for hurdle, until Mossman just won by inches.

The spell cast by the Engineers over the Tug-o-War was at last broken by Arts, and in no unconvincing manner. Two straight pulls and the mysterious power of the Engineers in this event was broken, and Claude had lost his bet.

The one inspiring thought about Sports Day is that most of the competitors intend to support the Athletic Clubs, which should consequently enjoy a very successful season.

Finally, it is our pleasant task gratefully to thank all the members of Staff who played a necessary part in making Sports Day a success—the Judges, the Starter—Mr. Anderson, and the Recorder—Mr. Thackeray.

RESULTS.

100 yards—1, L. M. Wallace; 2, J. Thornhill; 3, P. R. Mossman. Time—10secs. Record.

880 yards—1, N. D. Pirrie; 2, C. A. Dukes; 3, L. H. Moore. Time—2 mins. 7 9/10 secs.

Hurling the Discus—1, C. T. Reed; 2, B. A. Wareham; 3, F. Holmes. Distance—95ft. 2ins.

Long Jump—1, A. Skeet; 2, J. Thornhill; 3, P. R. Mossman. Distance—19ft. 5ins.

Putting the Shot—1, B. A. Wareham; 2, F. Holmes; 3, C. T. Reed. Distance—29ft. 7ins.

One Mile—1, A. Evans; 2, C. A. Dukes; 3, I. C. Newton-Smith. Time—4mins. 58 2/5 secs.

High Jump—1, A. Skeet; 2, C. T. Reed; 3, J. Thornhill. Distance—5ft. 1in.

120 yards Hurdles—1, P. R. Mossman; 2, J. Thornhill. Time—16 9/10secs.

Throwing the Javelin—1, C. T. Reed; 2, H. Williams; 3, K. N. Reed. Distance—131ft. 7ins.

440 yards—1, J. Carswell; 2, C. A. Dukes. Time—61 2/5secs.

220 yards—1, L. M. Wallace; 2, J. Thornhill; 3, A. Skeet. Time—22½ secs.

Three-Mile Team Race—1, J. Hodgkinson; 2, G. Burroughs; 3, D. Armstrong. Time—17 mins. 59 1/10 secs.

Relay Race—1, Science; 2, Engineers; 3, Arts.
Time—3 mins. 57½ secs.

Tug-o-War—1, Arts; 2, Engineers; 3, Science.

Best Champion of the Day—N. D. Pirrie.

Champion Faculty—
Science, 44pts.
Arts, 33pts.
Engineering, 16pts.

WOMEN'S ATHLETICS.

For the second year in succession there have been no Women's events at the Annual College Sports, through lack of entries received—5 in 1937 and 4 this year, and each year these have come from seniors.

In 4 weeks the women must produce a team to compete in the Hants Inter-Collegiate Sports—an event Southampton has not won for the past 4 years. Last year we gave Portsmouth a close match, being only 2 points behind, and because of this, and also because this year the Sports are to be at Swaythling, it would be a disgrace to be forced to scratch. So will any woman at all interested in either running or jumping, please give her name to Miss Hunt or Miss Luff as soon as possible. It does not matter if you are not brilliant, but we do want keenness. Surely from 117 women it should be possible to raise a team!

G. LUFF, (Captain).

TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

Entry forms for the tournament must be handed in to Hall Representatives not later than Thursday, May 5th. Entries cannot be accepted after this date. The Tournament Committee wish to point out to Juniors that this is a College tournament, arranged by the Tennis Club and that handicaps are allotted, as far as humanly possible, to give all entrants an equal chance of winning the various events. Partners will be found for entrants who have not chosen their own, but it is hoped that as many as possible will make their own arrangements.

The Committee has approved the following new rule: "No two members of either of the first college tennis teams will be allowed to compete, as a pair, in the tournament."

The Committee hopes that the Staff will support the tournament as keenly as in the past, and apologies for the fact that entry forms were not available in the Senior Common Room at the beginning of the term.

Rules of play will be posted when the draw for the first rounds has been made. Prizes will be distributed at the Tennis Tournament Dance, to be held on Saturday, June 25th, at Highfield Hall.

B. A. WAREHAM.

FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION

INAUGURAL LECTURE to the Chair of Chemistry

By PROFESSOR N. K. ADAM, M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S., F.I.C.

MONDAY, MAY 9th,

In the ASSEMBLY HALL, at 4.30 p.m.

"Rubaiyat"

Awake I for Finals in the summer night

As nightmares come, and put our dreams to flight,
And lo! the carefree undergrad is caught

Firmly and fast within the noose of fright!

Think, in this batter'd Caravan—
serai

Where in base toil we fritter youth away,

How student after student had his hopes

Dashed by the dismal verdict
"Failed B.A."

Myself when young did eagerly frequent

Doctor and Prof., to lectures daily went,

But soon the habit dropped,
and ever since,

I spurn hard work, and am on pleasure bent.

How long must we in infinite pursuit

Of academic honour's barren fruit?

Better make merry at the joyful "Hop."

Than live in hourly terror of the Boot.

Come, leave the Wise to study,
and with me

Smoke and quaff coffee in Refectory

Amid the hubbub talk of Love and War,

Argue with Reds your rival policy.

Ah, Moon of my Delight, answer me why

We may not even sing, sip wine, and lie

Upon the River's bank, and merry-make,

What Phantom Figure drives us,
Thou and I?

Here with a sheaf of notes, a wrinkled brow,

A fountain pen, and paper white, and Thou,

Beside me swotting in the Library

In vain I strive, alas, 'tis too late now.

The future looms: I tremble on the Brink,

The ripples close and I am Nothing—
—Think

What now avail carousal, music, cash,

The lips I pressed and the wine did drink?

The moving finger writes, and having writ,

Leans back to ponder on a moral fit;

"Laugh, and toss high the sweet, red rose of youth,

Soon, when it falls, your time will come—to quit!"

NOTICES.

We congratulate Miss O. Comben upon her election as Vice-President of the Union for next Session. The result of the election came too late for publication last term.

Wessex News is to be published fortnightly during the current term.

PLEASE NOTE.

Subscription Rate : 1/-

A 3rd year man at High Tea on Saturday in Stoneham: "Do they hold Annual Sports here then?"

Our Special Reporter reports that Mr. Freddie Sewry was mistaken for Professor Cook by a young damsel in Liverpool.

Congratulations to Mr. J. Skilton and Miss Daphne Lacey-Johnson upon their engagement which was announced on Friday.

During the Vacation the *Daily Mail* devoted one of its valuable pages to advertising the amenities of Southampton, but we are told that only a cursory reference was made to University College.

We have no comment to offer.

A cup of Mrs. Sly's coffee will be personally presented to the tutor who made the following remark at a tutorial interview: "Your superabundant arrogant pride masquerades as humility. You must do your best to conquer it."

Chess Club

At the end of last term the "A" Team maintained its winning sequence of matches by gaining an overwhelming victory (5-1) over the Rooks, its chief rivals for the championship of the Southampton League. This match proved to be decisive, and the College deservedly won the championship for the fourth time. The results of the teams' matches in this league are:

Boards
P W D L F A P
10 7 2 1 40½ 19½ 16

The "A" Team still has to play one match in the Hants League which will probably decide the fate of the League championship.

By winning against Itchen and Totton, the "B" Team finished the season very strongly, and gained third place in the 2nd Division. Its results are:

Boards
P W D L F A P
12 6 1 5 36½ 23½ 13

Careers

As was announced last term, the Students' Council in conjunction with the Appointments Board is endeavouring to arrange a series of talks on the openings and prospects in, and necessary qualifications for, various professions and occupations which graduates may wish to enter.

The first of these talks is to be given by Mr. F. L. Freeman, Secretary of Education for Southampton, who will address an open meeting on "Openings in Education," on Saturday next, May 7th, in the Music Studio at 11.15 a.m.

Since this is a topic which is of interest to a large proportion of the students in College, it is hoped that the meeting will be very well supported.

Mr. Ball, the Assistant Secretary of the London University Appointments Board will address an open meeting of students on a wider aspect of the question of Graduate Employment, if he comes down to College this month. His visit is contingent upon the registration of a sufficient number of students with the London Board. The registration fee is only half-a-crown, and not only will students so registered be granted a personal interview with Mr. Ball—who has a very wide experience and knowledge of career-finding—but they will also receive comprehensive fortnightly bulletins of a wider variety of posts.

All members of the Union are urged to give this matter their fullest consideration.

A.R.B.

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Calendar

Tuesday, May 3rd.
5.15 p.m. Choral Society.
Music Studio.

8.15 p.m. English Association.
Open Meeting at University College in commemoration of the quatercentenary of the placing of the English Bible in Parish Churches. Lecture by Mr. E. H. Blakeney, M. A., formerly of Winchester College. "The Bible as Literature."

Thursday, May 5th.
1.20 p.m. Christian Union.
Room 35.
1.20 p.m. Choir Practice.
Music Studio.

Friday, May 6th.
1.20 p.m. S.C.M. Music Studio.

Saturday, May 7th.
11.15. Music Studio. Mr. F. L. Freeman. "Openings in Education."

Sunday, May 8th.
9.45 a.m. Collegiate Service at St. Mary's, South Stoneham.
Preacher, The Rev. J. Hunt, B.A., Vicar of Wichenford, Worcester.

Monday, May 9th.
1.20 p.m. Christian Union.
Room 35.
4.30 p.m. Lecture inaugural to the Chair of Chemistry, to be delivered by Professor N. K. Adam, M.A., Sc.D., F.R.S., F.I.C.
5-7 p.m. O.T.C.

IMPORTANT.

Nominations for Faculty Representatives on to next year's Students' Council must be handed to the Secretary of the Faculty by Saturday, May 7th.
Do not forget to nominate your Candidate!

The N.U.S. Summer Tours handbook is now available, free from the S.C. office.

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